

THE CHAMPION

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No. 8

WAR TIMES

AT NASHVILLE. SOME EXPERIENCES.

(Continued From Last Week.)

A very short time we had our works substantially located in view of the capital city. General Bates stood on the bank with his glass and had a view of his residence Nashville being his home, but now in possession of the enemy. We plainly see the movements of the officers as they passed up and down the lines. One in particular who rode a small white horse passed several times during the day. I carried a long ranged rifle which bore up well for several hundred yards. I raised my rifle to that distance took deliberate aim and fired. He did not fall but moved off at a double gait. I guess he heard the report of my bullet and decided he better move up for fear of the shot. We remained here in the trenches for several days, and had but very little fire fight.

Perhaps some of our young readers who are not accustomed to the life of war would like to know we were not allowed fire at all. It was often the case when we were discovered by the enemy the direction of our camp a shell was sent roaring through the air to explode near our fire, and doing great damage.

Sometime during the month of December we could plainly see the enemy was making arrangements for a move in some direction. Very soon we discovered the long lines of blue were moving straight forward in the direction of our works. We immediately began making preparations to receive them. Our artillery opened fire on them, as it was now plainly seen that they intended making a heavy assault on our works. When they advanced up in a reasonable distance of us we opened fire on the advancing columns with volley after volley of all arms, cutting out avenues in the front ranks. The space was instantly filled up by those in the rear. On our extreme right was a brigade of negro troops which had been placed in front and served as breastworks for the whites. They were hewn down so rapidly that soon there was but few left to tell the story.

The next heavy charge was made on our left where our lines were broken and a general stampede ensued, it was difficult to tell what portion of our lines gave way. In McCade's history of the war we read Finney's Brigade of Florida troops were the first to give way, evidently Mr. McCade did not know much about the circumstance for there was no such general in the army as Finney. It was intended for General J. J. Wiley who was then in command of all Florida troops in the western army. It would have taken close inspection to ascertain where our first gave way for, apparently the whole army fell back at the same time, officers on horseback, sword in hand, made repeated efforts to rally the men and bring them to a halt but all efforts failed. Every man for himself and paid no attention to orders. The retreat was a panic stricken soldiers

were making their way in the direction of Franklin at a bridge across a small stream. Near this place a second effort was made to bring the men to a halt by placing a strong guard at the bridge allowing but one division to pass over at the same time. Stewart's division was the first to cross. As myself and one other soldier approached the bridge we were halted and asked what division we belonged to, "Bates division," was the reply, "You can't cross." We stepped back a short distance in the dark, waited a few minutes and again stepped up to the foot of the bridge. "What division do you belong to asked the guard." "Stewart's division." "Sir you can pass over." It made but little difference with us what division we belonged to. What we were then mostly interested in was crossing the bridge. By daylight next morning the remnant of Hood's army was in Franklin. Our losses in killed, wounded, captured and desertions amounted to several hundred. Many Tennessees threw down their arms and went home. Here General Hood remained for several days, reorganising his army and getting it in proper shape.

Our next move was in the direction of Corinth, Mississippi, which place we reached in due course of time. Here it was reported we were going to establish winter quarters. This proved to be a false report. After resting a short time we moved on to Tupelo, Miss. Our only route to this place was on the railroad track.

Six miles before we reached our destination myself and three other comrades branched off to our left on a foraging expedition. We had not gone far when we spied a sheep feeding on the range. Here a dispute arose whether or not we should kill the sheep as it was seemingly very poor; after some argument we decided to take it as we might not meet with another opportunity of securing a fresh mess. We soon had the animal butchered, divided up and in our haversacks; it was a little better than no meat at all. We had not gone far before we discovered a short distance from us two fine shoats. We soon had them hung to a blackjack limb, the hide taken off and quartered up; it was so much better than our mutton we threw it away and filled our haversacks with the fine, fat pork and started for camp. It was then late in the day. We called at the house of an old farmer, borrowed a fry pan and a stew pot, and struck camp for the night. We soon had enough cooked for our supper and breakfast. After feasting heartily on our ill gotten gains we kindled us a large fire by which we slept until morning. On enquiring of the old farmer in regard to our route to camp he informed us we would have to go back four miles where we left the railroad or wade a slough of water one mile, frozen over with ice. We chose the latter and moved on. Just before we reached camp we were arrested by the provost guard and relieved of all of our pork except ten or fifteen pounds, one of the boys had rolled up in his blanket which the guard did not discover. We joined our command which had struck camp near Tupelo. Here I was detailed as a member of our division provost

(Continued on Last Page.)

OUR NEIGHBORS

INTERESTING NEWS OF NEARBY COMMUNITIES.

Scrap Shots From Lily.

Another heavy rain has fallen which will considerably delay crop planting.

J. E. Raulerson finished moving the last of his orange crop the week last past.

On last Saturday morning Grandma Wrede left for Mulberry to visit her daughter Mrs. Hays of that place. She was accompanied by her daughter Mrs. M. A. Raulerson and two of her grand children, J. E. Kaulerson and Miss Edith Raulerson.

We are due our neighbor and friend Louis D. Dupree a sincere apology. Something more than a month ago he was married to Miss Ida McLeod, of Duette. We intended at the time to give the item while new with a reserve of our best superlatives. One reason we were uncertain at the time of the fact being certain for rumors were flying thick and fast that he was to marry and had married etc. until we did not know what to do or say about it. But we wish to assure Mr. and Mrs. Dupree that we wish them all the joy and happiness that their hearts desire.

KODAK.

Lily, Fla., 2 21, 1906.

Bunker Talk.

Everybodies watermelons are looking fine and the people are commencing to work them.

There has been another land deal in Bunker. John M. Bates has purchased the Anderson Orange grove.

John F. Bates, has been spending a few nights with his father. He lives so far off and he doesn't see him very often.

Mr. Joel Hand and family and Mrs. Sallie Platt and family, from Fruitville, are visiting friends and relatives in Bunker this week.

Mr. Henry Futch has got a fine bean patch, and when it gets to bearing it had better look out on moonlight nights, for you know rabbits like beans.

FLAP JACK.

Notes From Gardner.

We are having pleasant weather. Quite a lot of building going on here.

G. McCorquodale has about 20 acres in truck.

Johnathan Coker is building a dwelling just south of the depot.

W. E. Daniels, of Arcadia was doing business in Gardner Sat. last.

Dr. Moore is having quite a little ditching and fencing done on his property.

Messrs. Emory Johnson and Henry Bullock were in Gardner Sunday eve.

Mrs. Dan Worth is very poorly, yet we hope she will soon be able to be out again.

T. E. Fielder has planted about 50 acres in truck, Irish potatoes, cukes and melons.

Misses Daisy and Mittie Harward and Miss Sallie McConnell, of Nashville, Tenn., also Guy Harward, spent a pleasant evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Harward, Friday last.

Saturday Justice Coker tried and convicted a negro for larceny. Deputy Bassett carried him to jail.

The Baptist church is being built. They have the foundation completed. It is near the school house.

The orange work was finished here last Friday. There were about 40,000 crates shipped from here.

Mr. Bassett, DeSoto's able deputy sheriff, was in Gardner Sat. He was after another boarder for the county hotel.

There has been a number of people gone from here to the east coast, but they are like the cat, they come back just as soon as possible. They say the east coast doesn't come up with old DeSoto.

Yours evermore till death,
Doc.

A Big Sawmill Deal.

The Nocatee Welles' Saw Mill and its timber land and other appurtenances were sold this week to a syndicate of well known gentlemen, who will do business under the firm name of the King Lumber and Manufacturing Company.

The following are the officials of the new firm, viz: J. G. King, of Arcadia, president; Alex. M. Pace, of Jacksonville, General Manager; Directors, J. G. King, Walter Graham J. H. and, E. D. Treadwell.

The purchase price is given as \$225,000. We understand that it is the intention of the company to operate the mill at Nocatee for the present, altho' eventually Arcadia may be the site.

This is a big deal and as Arcadia business men are largely interested in it we expect our city will derive much benefit from the same.

Concrete Machinery Here.

The Florida Cement and Construction Co., N. A. Faulkner, Mgr., have this week received the machinery for their cement manufactory. It has been put in position on land near the site of the new school house on Quality Hill, and the first stone manufactory will be put into the \$12000 building for that purpose, work on which will commence early next week.

An Early Primary.

Chairman D. U. Fletcher, of the State Democratic Executive Committee, has issued a call for the State Democratic Committee to meet in Jacksonville on Saturday, February 24th, to fix a date for holding the primary elections for nomination of state and county officers.

This is taken by many politicians to mean early primaries, but this is not positive, as the committee, it is thought, will not call them earlier than June 1st.

The primary two years ago had to determine nearly all state officers, and was held very early, the first one being on May 10th, and the second on June 7. These dates were opposed by many newspapers, who claimed that they were very inconvenient to the farmers of the state.

This coming meeting, however, will have the tendency to bring out the candidates for county offices, state senators and representatives.

How old is Gen. George Washington today?

NEWS OF FLORIDA

INTERESTINGLY TOLD FOR BUSY READERS.

Dade county will hold its annual fair in Miami about the middle of March.

Work has actually commenced on the State University Buildings to be erected at Gainesville.

Prominent railroad officials of the Sea Board Air Line have been recently in Tampa enroute to Cuba.

The State Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union will be held in Gainesville, April 10th to 13th, 1906.

Superintendent Prevatt of the St. Lucie Poor Farm was instantly killed last week as he was driving across the East Coast Railway track in South Titusville. A train ran over himself and horse killing both.

Hon. Randall Pope, of Madison, has been appointed by the governor as member of the Board of Control, to succeed Nathaniel Adams, who resigned because he was not in sympathy with the most of the Board.

John Quincy Adams, of Wichita, Kansas, representing some labor unions of his state has been in DeSoto county this week investigating this section with a view to locating some of the members in the state.

Governor Broward this week visited Ft. Lauderdale, where he is having two large dredges built for use in his Everglade drainage project. He was accompanied by F. H. Neles, of Chicago, a member of the company that furnished the machinery for the dredges.

Miss Alice Roosevelt, daughter of the president and Hon. Nicholas Longworth were married in the White House on February 17. It is stated by the daily papers that the young couple are enroute to Florida by the Southern Railway, and that they may go to West Palm Beach and later to Havana.

A letter from Pensacola says that the timber market there is now higher than it has ever been in the history of the port. Sawn timber of thirty feet now averages at 27 and 28 cents per foot, while shorter averages are desirable for 23 and 24 cents, which is fully 10 cents per foot higher than what it was sold for at the same period last year. — Jacksonville Metropolis.

John B. Stetson, founder of Stetson University at DeLand, died at his home near that city on February 18. He was stricken with apoplexy Sunday morning and died without regaining consciousness. He was 76 years of age, and a very rich man, son of a hatter, and an employer of 3500 persons who now work in his hat manufactories. His gifts to DeLand have made his name famous in Florida. He leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter. His body was taken to Philadelphia for burial.